

CLAIMS

1. A method of separating a selected ionic component from a sample, which comprises contacting the sample with an ionic adsorbent whose charge density is such that the component is bound selectively in the absence of added ionic
5 component that competitively binds the adsorbent.
2. A method according to claim 1, wherein the adsorbent is cationic.
3. A method according to claim 2, wherein the adsorbent comprises a sulphopropyl group.
4. A method according to any preceding claim, wherein the charge density
10 of the adsorbent is 10 to 100 $\mu\text{mol/ml}$.
5. A method according to any preceding claim, wherein the sample comprises two ionic components, and wherein the charge density of the adsorbent is selected such that only one of the two components is bound.
6. A method according to any preceding claim, wherein the selected ionic
15 component is a protein.
7. A method according to claim 5, wherein the protein is an immunoglobulin.
8. A method according to claim 5 or claim 6, wherein the sample comprises, in addition to the protein, protein A.
9. A method according to any preceding claim, which further comprises
20 eluting the bound component.